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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT**30 OCTOBER 2017**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Santa Cruz – Bear Fire Set by Man Arrested in Looting Evacuated Home**

(U) A man accused of looting a home evacuated due to the Bear Fire has been arrested on suspicion of lighting the same blaze. At a news conference, Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Lt. Todd Liberty said Marlon Dale Coy, 54, was involved in a dispute with residents in Boulder Creek when he intentionally set the fire near their residence. Officials first came across Coy when several people reported seeing him and a few other men in the area when the fire broke out. He now faces eight arson charges — including causing great bodily injury to firefighters and destroying forests.

SOURCE: 27 October 2017, [NBC Bay Area](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Minnesota – Man Arrested in Connection with Pipe Bombs**

(U) Oklee – A 41-year-old Minnesota man was arrested in connection to a cache of pipe bombs found on a rural property last weekend. Officers with the Red Lake and Pennington County sheriff's offices and the regional drug task force arrested Eric James Reinbold, who now faces charges of felony possession of explosives and violation of a probation agreement. Police confirmed the arrest was connected to a stockpile of homemade explosives discovered by a landowner on 22 October. A sheriff's deputy found several pipe bombs, in a container, hidden in a rubble pile on the complainant's property. The bombs were described as pipe devices packed with explosive material that would detonate under pressure.

SOURCE: 27 October 2017, [Grand Forks Herald](#)

(U) Virginia – American who Joined, Escaped ISIS gets 20 Years

(U) Alexandria – The only American citizen to be convicted in a US jury trial of successfully joining ISIS overseas has been sentenced to 20 years in prison. Twenty-seven-year-old Mohamad Khweis of Alexandria, Virginia, was sentenced in federal court in Virginia on 27 October after being convicted on terrorism charges earlier this year. Khweis traveled to ISIS-controlled territory in Iraq and Syria in December 2015, even obtaining an official membership card. He decided to leave the group after a few months, surrendering to Kurdish forces in northern Iraq.

SOURCE: 30 October 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Greece – Man Arrested Over Letter Bombs Sent to EU Officials**

(U) Athens – Greek police arrested a 29-year old man on 28 October connected to a series of letter bomb attacks on EU officials earlier this year. Eight packages were intercepted in Athens in March 2017 after booby-trapped posts were sent to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Paris and the German finance minister in Berlin. Police said in a statement that they were looking for other suspects in relation to the investigation. It is not clear if the man is linked to the Greek far-left group Conspiracy of Fire Cells which said it was responsible for the device sent to German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble. The group was previously responsible for a similar spate of letter-bombs sent to officials in 2010 which

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forced Greek authorities to suspend international post.

SOURCE: 28 October 2017, [BBC](#)

(U) Germany – Two Men Sentenced for Joining Militant Groups in Somalia and Syria

(U) Frankfurt – A court in the Germany separately found two German nationals guilty of joining foreign militant groups. The court sentenced the first, Abshir A., to two years and ten months in prison for joining al-Shabab in Somalia, a terrorist group linked to al-Qa’ida. It sentenced the second, Ozkan C., to two years and eight months for being a member of Junud al-Sham in Syria, a Sunni militant group. Abshir A. fought along al-Shabab militants between early 2012 and early 2014 and was arrested after he arrived at Frankfurt airport with falsified documents in July 2016. Ozkan C. joined Junud al-Sham along with his wife in 2013. While in Syria, he taught Arabic to other German-speaking al-Sham fighters and was given weapons training.

SOURCE: 27 October 2017, [Deutsche Welle](#)

(U) Somalia – At Least 29 Dead After Attack on Hotel

(U) Mogadishu – An attack on a hotel ended yesterday after 29 people were killed during a siege lasting nearly 12 hours. The attack in the capital comes two weeks after twin bombings killed more than 350 people, the worst such attacks in the country’s history. Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for this weekend’s attack, which took place ahead of a planned meeting to try to defuse tensions between the federal government and regional states. The attack began on 28 October when a car bomb rammed the gates of Nasahablod Two hotel, which is close to the presidential palace, and destroyed the hotel’s defenses. Officials expect the death toll to rise.

SOURCE: 29 October 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) United Kingdom – North Korea Blamed for WannaCry Attacks

(U) London – The United Kingdom released its final report on the WannaCry ransomware attacks that caused mass disruption in its hospital system, with a UK official saying the country believes the attacks originated in North Korea. WannaCry caused worldwide panic in May 2017 when it infected at least hundreds of thousands of computers, causing disruptions in major European companies including Germany’s largest rail provider, auto manufacturer Renault, Spanish telecom Telefonica, the Russian Ministry of the Interior, Chinese law enforcement, and other targets. The Symantec firm tied WannaCry to an infamous hacking group known as Lazarus affiliated with North Korea soon after the attack, an attribution the UK government appears to now agree with.

SOURCE: 27 October 2017, [The Hill](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Cartel Leader Faces Drug-Trafficking Charges

(U) San Diego – A high-ranking drug cartel leader whose name flew on banners taking credit for several murders in Sonora, Mexico, has been arrested in San Diego on drug-trafficking and money-laundering charges. Sajid Emilio Quintero Navidad, who goes by the moniker “El Cadete,” is the cousin of fugitive drug lord Rafael Caro Quintero, accused of being responsible for the 1985 murder of a US Drug Enforcement Administration Agent. Quintero Navidad was arrested 11 October at the San Ysidro Port of Entry. He was indicted by a San Diego federal grand jury on 22 September, charging him with conspiracy to distribute heroin and cocaine for importation, conspiracy to import the drugs, and conspiracy to launder money. He has pleaded not guilty and remains in custody.

SOURCE: 29 October 2017, [San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

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